

Syphilis in Houston/Harris County, April 2004 Update¹

In April, there were a total of 43 early syphilis cases reported (P&S and EL). There were 34 (79%) males and 9 (21%) females.

Twenty (47%) of total early syphilis cases were reported among men who have sex with men (MSM).

Table 1. Early Syphilis by Stage:

Syphilis Stage	April 2004			January-April 2004		
	MSM	City	% (MSM/City)	MSM	City	% (MSM/City)
Primary	3	5	60%	9	16	56%
Secondary	11	21	52%	39	65	60%
Early Latent	6	17	35%	18	53	34%
<i>Total</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>49%</i>

Houston/Harris County Early Syphilis Cases, April 2004:

Table 2. Ethnic/Racial Distribution:

Time	Hispanic	Black	White	Asian/Pac Isl	Oth/Unk	Total
April 2004	10 (23%)	22 (51%)	11 (26%)	0	0	43
Jan-April 2004	31 (23%)	55 (41%)	46 (34%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	134

Table 3. Age Distribution:

Time	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
April 2004	0	20 (47%)	10 (23%)	7 (16%)	6 (14%)	43
Jan-April 2004	7 (5%)	48 (36%)	34 (25%)	33 (25%)	12 (9%)	134

Table 4. HIV Status Among Interviewed Clients:

Time	# Cases	# Interviewed ²	Current HIV Status			
			Positive	Negative ³	Unknown ⁴	Not Tested
April 2004	43	43 (100%)	18 (42%)	18 (42%)	0	7 (16%)
Jan-April 2004	134	132 (99%)	44 (33%)	56 (42%)	0	32 (24%)

MSM Early Syphilis Cases, April 2004:

Table 5. MSM Ethnic/Racial Distribution:

Time	Hispanic	Black	White	Total
April 2004	7 (35%)	5 (25%)	8 (40%)	20
Jan-April 2004	21 (32%)	11 (17%)	34 (52%)	66

Table 6. MSM Age Distribution:

Time	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
April 2004	0	6 (30%)	6 (30%)	4 (20%)	4 (20%)	20
Jan-April 2004	3 (5%)	18 (27%)	16 (24%)	21 (32%)	8 (12%)	66

Table 7. MSM HIV Status Among Interviewed Clients:

Time	# Cases	# Interviewed ²	Current HIV Status			
			Positive	Negative ³	Unknown ⁴	Not Tested
April 2004	20	20 (100%)	14 (70%)	5 (25%)	0	1 (5%)
Jan-April 2004	66	66 (100%)	38 (58%)	19 (29%)	0	9 (14%)

¹ Data as of June 1, 2004 from HDHHS STD*MIS

² Cases not interviewed due to refusal, failure to locate, or other reasons

³ Based on current HIV status (result should be within 30 days from date of interview)

⁴ Indeterminate or unknown

Table 8. Houston/Harris County Distribution of Syphilis Cases by Stage, 2004

Month	P	S	P&S Syphilis			EL < 1Yr	Early syphilis			Unknown Duration	Late Latent	Total Syphilis		
			(infectious syphilis)				(P&S and EL < 1 yr)							
					% change				% change					
	710	720	2004	*2003	from 2003	730	2004	*2003	from 2003	740	745	2004	*2003	from 2003
January	7	16	23	17	35.3%	11	34	30	13.3%	27	26	87	79	10.1%
February	1	15	16	22	-27.3%	11	27	30	-10.0%	33	18	78	87	-10.3%
March	3	13	16	18	-11.1%	14	30	29	3.4%	29	30	89	86	3.5%
April	5	21	26	18	44.4%	17	43	30	43.3%	24	24	91	84	8.3%
May														
June														
July														
August														
September														
October														
November														
December														
Total	16	65	81	75	8.0%	53	134	119	12.6%	113	98	345	336	2.7%

*Compared to same time in 2003

Table 9. MSM Distribution of Syphilis Cases by Stage, 2004

Month	P	S	P&S Syphilis (infectious syphilis)			EL < 1Yr	Early syphilis (P&S and EL < 1 yr)			Unknown Duration Latent	Late Latent	Total Syphilis		
					% change				% change					% change
	710	720	2004	*2003	from 2003	730	2004	*2003	from 2003	740	745	2004	*2003	from 2003
January	5	10	15	14	7.1%	5	20	20	0.0%	7	1	28	32	-12.5%
February	0	10	10	17	-41.2%	6	16	20	-20.0%	10	3	29	37	-21.6%
March	1	8	9	14	-35.7%	1	10	18	-44.4%	7	4	21	33	-36.4%
April	3	11	14	12	16.7%	6	20	16	25.0%	8	3	31	34	-8.8%
May														
June														
July														
August														
September														
October														
November														
December														
Total	9	39	48	57	-15.8%	18	66	74	-10.8%	32	11	109	136	-19.9%

*Compared to same time in 2003

Figure 1 below illustrates the number of MSM early syphilis cases relative to defined monthly outbreak thresholds.

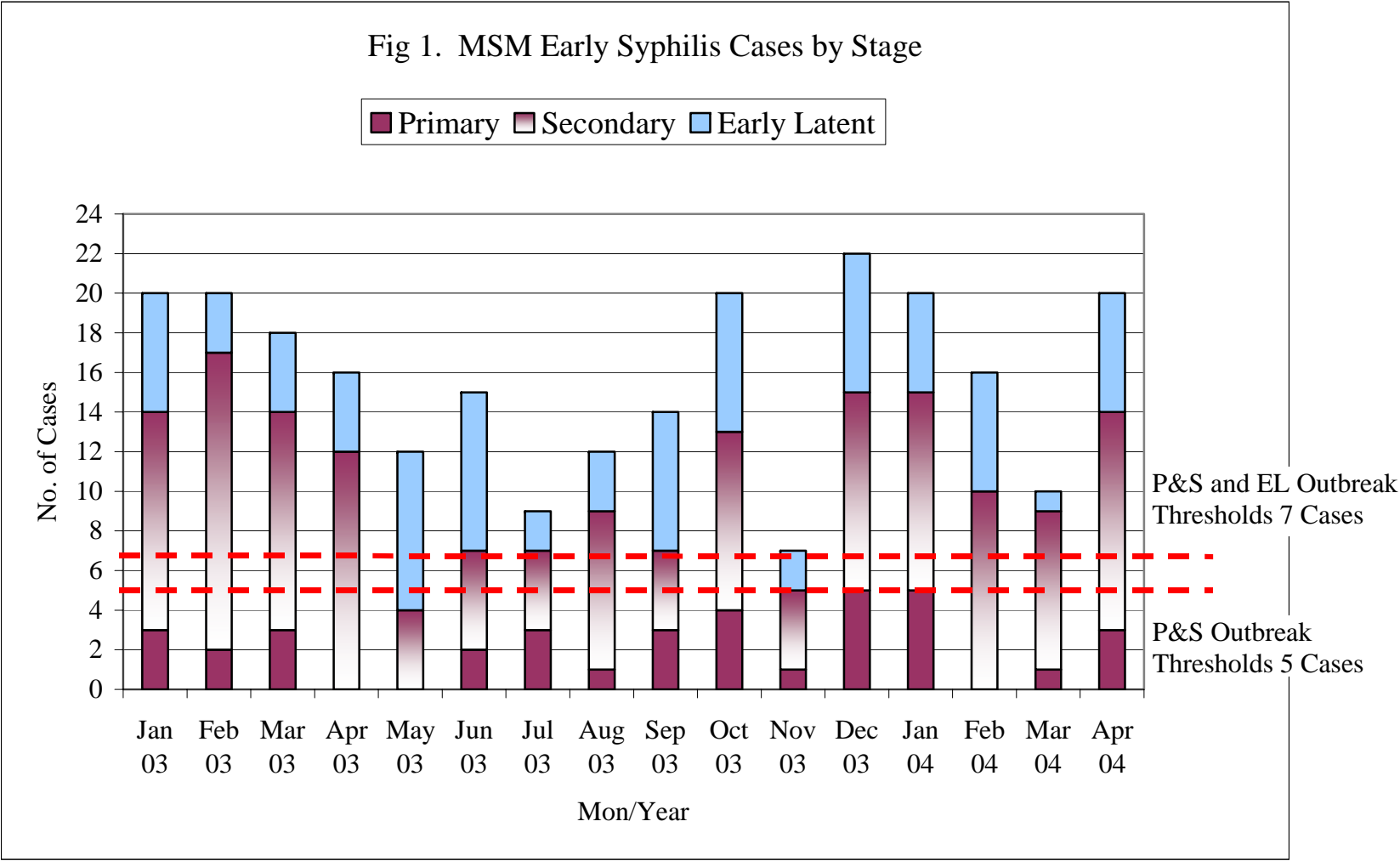


Figure 2 below illustrates the MSM and non-MSM P&S syphilis cases as a percentage of all P&S syphilis cases.

